Lyman Briggs College

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Top: LBC physics students volunteer at Impression 5 Museum’s Legopalooza event; Middle: LBC biology students learn DNA replication through sculpting exercise; Bottom: LBC biology students hold a completed insulin model;

Lyman Briggs College

Lyman Briggs College is an undergraduate, residential college founded in 1967 by dedicated individuals hoping to bridge the widening gap between sciences and humanities. The first of its kind, the college has become known as the institution students go to for an excellent foundation in science and mathematics with additional focus on history, philosophy and sociology of science.

lbc.msu.edu
Message from the Dean

As we close out the school year and launch nearly 300 graduates into the world, it’s a great time to reflect on all that has taken place throughout the academic year: with two LBC students winning Goldwater Scholarships for STEM, four students earning Board of Trustees’ Awards, five students winning the Martin Luther King Jr. Advancing Inclusion through Research prize, LBC faculty members Dr. Naoko Wake receiving an MSU Excellence in Diversity Award, Dr. Brian O’Shea winning a Teacher-Scholar award, Dr. Mark Waddell being chosen as a Lilly Fellow, Dr. Rob LaDuca being named a CIC-ALP Fellow, and Dr. Ryan Sweeder being selected as the Michigan Distinguished Professor of the Year, we certainly have an abundance of great news to celebrate.

Speaking of celebrations, back in October a number of you helped us kick off Empower Extraordinary, the capital campaign for Michigan State University. Here in Briggs, Empower Extraordinary focuses on strengthening student programs, supporting innovative academic programs, and expanding facilities to support our students’ learning. In fact, we are now drawing up plans for two new active learning classrooms in Holmes Hall: a Studio Physics Lab that will re-imagine how Briggs students learn physics and a REAL Classroom where all disciplines will enjoy access to mobile technology and furniture that support flexible, team-based classes. Past donations to the Lab Renovation Fund have let us start these projects and we hope that new gifts will bring them to a successful completion.

Indeed, it is with the support and engagement of Briggs alumni and friends that we will continue to thrive as a college. Your immediate gifts enable us to take bold steps like creating new classrooms, and the endowments you establish ensure that the Briggs Experience will be available for generations of students yet to come. Your willingness to judge a poster competition, speak in a classroom, or help match a student with an internship helps students achieve their academic dreams. Together, we can ensure that Lyman Briggs College remains one of the best science colleges in the country for discovery, open inquiry, and innovation.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth H. Simmons
Dean, Lyman Briggs College

Elizabeth H. Simmons came to Lyman Briggs School as Director in 2003 and became Dean of Lyman Briggs College in 2007. Among other accomplishments, she is credited with leading efforts to increase the student body by 25 percent and renovate the teaching laboratories.

Dr. Simmons is a world-renowned particle theorist, whose research focuses on the origins of mass. She has received numerous prestigious awards in her career, and continues to conduct research in the physics department.

In parallel with her dedication to research, Dr. Simmons enjoys teaching physics courses at all levels, and presently teaches a junior level course in mathematical physics.

A central part of her mission as an educator is encouraging more students (especially those from under-represented groups) to consider studies in the physical sciences.

She was an American Council on Education Fellow at Yale University during 2013-14, and is serving as Acting Dean of MSU’s College of Arts and Letters in 2014-15.
Michigan State University’s “Empower Extraordinary” campaign was launched on October 24th with an event at the Wharton Center for Performing Arts. The event was led by MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon and the campaign’s co-chairs, Dolores Cook and Bob Skandalaris. The event featured music commissioned for the occasion written by Tony Award-winning composer and MSU alumnus, William David Brohn. MSU’s Symphony Orchestra and the University Chorale and State Singers also performed. A number of LBC community members attended the event.

Empower Extraordinary is MSU’s largest fundraising effort to date. Lyman Briggs College seeks to raise $5 million through the campaign to help us continue to produce well-rounded students through innovative teaching. We are focusing on four main areas: An Engine of Opportunity; A Force for Creativity, Discovery, and Learning; A Global Problem Solver; and A Vibrant Community. Our funding priorities include endowed student scholarships, research fellowship support, and support for two high-tech classrooms.

LBC’s campaign leadership includes: Don Borseth and Pat Merry of Williamston, Robert Shelton of Lansing, Tess Tavormina of Haslett, Kevin Ohl of Aurora, Illinois, and Jay Pendergrass of Washington, D.C. For more information on the campaign and LBC’s funding priorities, please visit empower.msu.edu or contact our Development & Alumni Relations office at lbcadvan@msu.edu.

Dr. Jane Smith Elliott played many roles within our MSU and LBC community. She was an accomplished geologist, a respected colleague and administrator, an admired teacher, and an unofficial “Aunt” to many members of our community. Dr. Smith Elliott excelled in all of these roles while also raising three children in East Lansing.

Dr. Smith Elliott started teaching geology at what was then called Michigan Agricultural College (MAC) in 1943. Realizing that she would need further education in order to continue teaching, she completed her master’s at MAC and then her Ph.D. at the University of Michigan. Dr. Smith Elliott became an associate professor in 1960 and in 1963 she had a dual appointment in geology and the Science-Mathematics Teaching Center. She was eventually invited by Dr. Frederic Dutton, the dean of the relatively new Lyman Briggs College, to join LBC as a faculty member. Dr. Smith Elliott was influential in the early growth and development of Lyman Briggs College. She was promoted to full professor and named Assistant Dean in 1970. Even after her retirement in 1977, Dr. Smith Elliott continued to serve the University.

Students and colleagues remember Dr. Smith as not only a scientist and educator, but also a caregiver. From 1953-1963, Dr. Smith hosted buffet suppers for students and friends at her home on the corner of Bailey and Elizabeth Street. She also invited international students to share Thanksgiving with her family every year. Her generosity earned her the name “Aunt Jane” amongst close students and friends. Dr. Smith Elliott’s children have fond memories of growing up in a house that was so open and welcoming to students from all different backgrounds.

Dr. Smith Elliott passed away in 1987, but is still held in high esteem by her friends, colleagues, and former students of Lyman Briggs College. She was an exceptional scientist and administrator, but also a caregiver, mentor, and friend to many members of our community. A scholarship has been established in honor of Dr. Jane Smith Elliott by her daughter Martha (Marty) Kakuk and her husband Thomas Kakuk, D.V.M., Ph.D. along with Jane’s son Benjamin Smith, Ph.D. and his wife Nancy Frasure-Smith, Ph.D.

The Jane Smith Elliott Endowed Scholarship will help future Lyman Briggs College students achieve their academic dreams. Dr. Smith Elliott’s family shared that they understand the financial difficulties that many students face as they try to put themselves through school. They established this scholarship in order to support students with financial need and with exceptional academic records. They also hope that LBC alumni and friends will consider giving back to the college by donating to this endowed student scholarship.

Two outstanding LBC students, Mariah Schlis and Rachel Vanoollie, received the Jane Smith Elliott Endowed Scholarship last fall. Mariah is a junior studying zoology and Rachel is a junior studying genomics & molecular genetics. Through its endowment, the scholarship will continue to support future generations of Lyman Briggs College students over time. If you are interested in contributing to the Jane Smith Elliott Endowed Scholarship, please visit lbc.msu.edu or email lbcadvan@msu.edu.
LBC Student News

LBC student studies medical ethics in London

This summer, LBC student, Michelle Walls studied abroad in London through MSU’s Medical Ethics and Health Policy course. The course was led by Dr. Len Fleck, a professor in MSU’s Center for Ethics.

Throughout the course, Michelle and her classmates compared health systems in the US and UK. They looked how the different systems affect patients and doctors, as well as other stakeholders such as insurers. They also looked at the cost-effectiveness of each system and the access to different services that patients have under each system. The students also talked to health professionals throughout the city and toured one of London’s health and medicine museums. The course topic was especially interesting to Michelle, who is studying History Philosophy, and Sociology of Science in Lyman Briggs College and plans to attend medical school.

Michelle said that she enjoyed exploring London’s neighborhoods and meeting new people throughout the city. She was especially impressed with London’s diversity of cultures and ethnicities. Michelle said that her experience gave her “a greater appreciation for people and made me want to study abroad more.” Michelle received the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, which helped make it possible for her to study abroad.

Goldwater Scholarship and Honorable Mention Awardees

LBC junior, Megan Kechner, has won a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. Megan is studying neuroscience in LBC and psychology in the College of Social Science. She intends to pursue a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering and would like to teach at the university level.

LBC junior, Aaron Oom, received honorable mention for the Goldwater Scholarship. Aaron studies biochemistry & molecular biology. He intends to pursue a Ph.D. in Cellular Biology and would like to conduct research in communicable diseases with a national health organization. Established in 1986, the prestigious Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship supports advanced study and research in STEM disciplines.

Students present research at “Posters on the Hill” event

Two LBC students have been selected to present their research at the 19th annual “Posters on the Hill” event in Washington, D.C. this April. They are two of only 60 students chosen from across the country to present. Senior Jesse Whitfield will present her research poster titled “How Can Doctors Do a Good Job of Informing Patients Without Falling Behind Their Schedules?” Sophomore Lana Ruvolo Grasser’s presentation is titled “The Neuroscience of Reading: Integrating Humanities and Sciences in an fMRI Study on Jane Austen.” Both students completed their research under the direction of MSU faculty members.

LBC student receives MLK Jr. Research Award

Five LBC students were awarded the first prize Martin Luther King Jr. Advancing Inclusion through Research Award at the All-University Excellence in Diversity Awards program. The students received the award for a website they created in Dr. Georgina Montgomery’s course on gender and evolution. Their website, “What ‘Rape Culture’ Means,” explores the history and science behind the normalization of sexual violence in society. The MLK Jr. Advancing Inclusion through Research Award recognizes student projects on topics of inclusion, diversity, and marginalized populations.

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From left to right: Savana Swanson, Erin Gumpper, Ali Haque, Rachel Barton, Cameron Allie, and Dr. Georgina Montgomery.
Lyman Briggs College

Dr. Mark D. Schwartz, ‘80

Lyman Briggs College alumnus, Dr. Mark D. Schwartz, remembers being attracted to LBC for many of the same reasons that our students are today. Coming from Gagetown, a small town in Michigan’s thumb, he liked that Lyman Briggs provided a small college experience within a large research university. Dr. Schwartz thought that LBC was a place where he could pursue his interest in weather and climate, while building a foundation in the sciences more broadly. He also received an in-state merit scholarship to attend MSU.

Dr. Schwartz, who is now a Distinguished Professor of Geography at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, looks back fondly at his time at Lyman Briggs College. He lived in 620 East Holmes Hall for all four years of his undergraduate career and wishes he’d continued living in the building as a graduate student. Prof. Schwartz completed geography courses on topics such as climatology and remote sensing, but he has strong memories of his LBC courses. He remembers taking Science and Technology Studies courses (now called History, Philosophy, & Sociology of Science) in which he watched and discussed films such as Them! and Dr. Strangelove. He also remembers chemistry classes with Prof. Steven Spees and physics courses with Prof. Paul Parker. Prof. Schwartz has adopted Prof. Parker’s grading methodology in his own courses at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

During his time at LBC, Prof. Schwartz was a radio station disc jockey and production director for one of MSU’s student radio stations, WMCD. He had a strong radio voice, which he can still turn on today. Many of his peers thought he would pursue a career in broadcasting, but he was attracted to a career with more stability.

After graduating from LBC, Prof. Schwartz earned his master’s in geography from MSU’s College of Social Science. While completing his graduate degree, he also worked one year as an undergraduate advisor for Lyman Briggs students. He then went on to receive his Ph.D. in geography at the University of Kansas (it took him less than three years to complete his doctorate!). Prof. Schwartz is now associate chair of the geography department at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in remote sensing, climatology, and occasionally phenology.

Prof. Schwartz has focused his research on phenology, which is the study of weather and climate interactions with plant and animal life cycles. Prof. Schwartz looks specifically at the ways in which spring and autumn temperatures influence the development of plants and the ways in which plants influence the composition of the lower atmosphere.

For the early part of his career, Prof. Schwartz says that phenological research was respected, but its importance wasn’t completely understood by scientists outside the field. But in the late 1990s, Prof. Schwartz and several colleagues published four separate articles in Nature on phenology. He believes that these publications, combined with the growing interest in climate change, helped bring the field into the limelight. Today, phenological data is of great interest to scientists across many disciplines.

In the mid-2000s, Prof. Schwartz and a colleague co-founded the USA National Phenology Network in an effort to expand the types and amount of data available to scientists. This network encourages both researchers and citizen scientists to observe and record phenological changes in their local environment. Individuals and organizations can sign up for a program called Nature’s Notebook and record when they see specific plant growth stages or animals emerging throughout the year. Prof. Schwartz and his colleagues are working to increase the

Prof. Schwartz downloads data from a temperature sensor at one of his field research sites in northern Wisconsin.
Phenology is an interdisciplinary field made up of geographers, engineers, atmospheric scientists, ecologists, and biologists. Prof. Schwartz has found that the strong foundation he built in Briggs chemistry, physics, biology, and computer science courses has served him well. “This background I have has put me in position to be a natural team leader when working with multi-disciplinary research groups,” says Prof. Schwartz. He also believes his LBC courses on the history and philosophy of science have helped him to better appreciate the research of geography colleagues whose work is centered in the humanities and social sciences.

Prof. Schwartz is proud to be a Briggs alumnus and believes his experience at LBC was influential in leading him to his current work and research interests. “From my perspective, the curriculum and the program was something that was tremendously useful for me in ways that when I was there, I couldn’t even conceive of how they would be,” he says.

Prof. Schwartz was one of about sixty Lyman Briggs students to graduate in 1980. This May, he will address almost 300 graduates as LBC’s 2015 Spring Commencement Speaker. “From my point of view, this is the way that the big questions in science are being effectively addressed, by giving people a broad base in science and this connectedness to the issues facing society,” says Prof. Schwartz. “Briggs was the school...And now it’s more vibrant than ever.”

number of program participants nationwide. Prof. Schwartz has helped involve Lyman Briggs College with a different phenology project called the PhenoCam Network. Led by Dr. Andrew Richardson at Harvard University, the PhenoCam Network bridges the gap between phenological data collected through satellite imagery and data collected from individual observations. Dr. Richardson’s team has set up cameras at sites across the country to take photos of forested areas. Researchers can analyze the greenness of the canopies shown in the photos in order to track the changing of seasons over time. Prof. Schwartz helped set up two PhenoCams at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and then realized that his alma mater would be a good candidate for a PhenoCam as well. There is now a PhenoCam installed on the roof of Holmes Hall that takes images at regular intervals of the Sanford Natural Area.

The Sanford Natural Area behind Holmes Hall is one of more than 80 sites nationwide that make up the “PhenoCam Network.” The images taken at these sites are analyzed based on the amount and color of foliage present.
Wade Begrow, ’09

If you’ve enjoyed an Oberon or Two Hearted Ale over the past eight months, there’s a good chance that LBC alumnus, Wade Begrow had something to do with it. As the lead microbiologist for Bell’s Brewery (bellsbeer.com), Begrow and his colleagues test every batch of beer that leaves the brewery in Comstock, MI.

Begrow monitors the entire process, from brewing to packaging for microbiological contamination. Fortunately, human pathogens such as Salmonella cannot survive the brewing process and beer environment, but there are still about 30 different microorganisms that can affect beer flavor. A notable example is Lactobacillus. “Because we make beer, there are a lot of beer spoiling bacteria that hang out in the brewery,” says Begrow. If there is a spoilage problem, Begrow and his colleagues work to catch it before the beer is bottled, canned, or kegged.

Scientists at Bell’s run a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) protocol with a special German beer screening kit to look for beer-spoiling bacteria. According to Begrow, who helped bring the technology to the lab, Bell’s is one of only a few breweries in the country that has this particular model and screening technique. The Bell family is committed to making the laboratory at Bell’s a world class brewing science laboratory. It is clear that quality and safety are paramount at the company.

As one of the participants on Bell’s sensory panel, Begrow also assesses beer samples throughout the fermentation process to detect any off flavors or problems. “I have the opportunity to taste the beers that are outgoing three different times per day and it’s a really crucial part of my job,” says Begrow. “I’ve learned a lot about different flavors and compounds through my participation with the sensory panel.” After all, conducting sensory analysis of all outgoing batches of product is critical in the beer production process to ensure quality.

Begrow shared that his favorite Bell’s beer is their Two Hearted Ale, which is also the company’s biggest seller. Bell’s has been brewing beer in Michigan since 1985 and today is one of the largest craft breweries in the country. The company has enjoyed at least 20% annual growth over the past few years. “It’s really a great time to be on board; craft beer is growing like crazy,” says Begrow.

Begrow wasn’t sure what kind of workplace atmosphere he would find at Bell’s Brewery. But he said that although Bell’s staff is growing quickly, they’re still a tightknit group. And although they spend their day brewing, testing, and tasting beer, they don’t take their jobs lightly. “We make beer, and it’s enjoyable, but we all are very serious about it, too,” he says.

There is also a strong sense of community between different craft breweries. “One thing that kind of surprised me was how friendly different craft breweries are with each other,” says Begrow. “We have people from other breweries in the lab to train on our testing instruments if they’re going to purchase one.”

“I was quickly accepted into a larger community of Craft Beer Microbiologists and Food Safety experts from breweries all over the country,” says Begrow. After coming from a more ‘corporate’ background, I have been pleasantly surprised at the great sense of camaraderie that exists throughout the industry. We all want our customers’ craft beer experience to be enjoyable. A bad experience with one craft beer hurts us all.” Despite the growing demand for craft beer, craft breweries still make up less than ten percent of the beer market.

Wade Begrow graduated from Lyman Briggs College in 2009 with a degree in biology. His father, Dr. Lee Begrow, D.O., is also a LBC alumnus. Both lived on 1 West Holmes Hall during their time here. Wade Begrow worked at Summit Laboratory in Grand Rapids for about five years prior to joining Bell’s Brewery. He also completed a master’s degree in food and beverage safety from MSU in 2014.

Wade Begrow is a 2009 graduate of LBC. He is now the lead microbiologist for Bell’s Brewery in Galesburg, MI.
Ashima Saigal, ‘91

During a journey, it’s not always clear where one will land. This was clearly the case for Ashima Saigal, who had traveled and lived all over the world before landing in Michigan. After graduating from LBC with a degree in Computer Science, Ashima’s journey led her along many different paths. She worked for a software development company, a large manufacturing company, a small startup nonprofit, a university, and for a self-owned computer consulting business. These experiences, her ongoing education, and her strong yoga and meditation practice led her to found Database Sherpa in 2012.

Database Sherpa is committed to teaching nonprofit organizations how to better use and manage their data. Located in Grand Rapids, Ashima and her staff use what they call “The Sherpa Approach” when working with nonprofits. Just as a Sherpa would guide a group of trekkers up a mountain, Ashima helps nonprofits determine and meet their technology goals. She focuses on guiding and teaching her clients, rather than simply consulting. In the end, her clients build successful databases and develop the technology skills they need to be independent.

Database Sherpa primarily teaches clients to use Salesforce, a database management system that provides free licenses to nonprofit organizations. According to Ashima, Salesforce is a user-friendly program, but it takes some time to truly understand the platform and to build a database that meets individual goals. Ashima is an active leader in the Salesforce community and was recently recognized as a Salesforce MVP at the 2014 National Dreamforce Conference in San Francisco. This award has recognized only about 100 of the thousands of Salesforce community members worldwide.

Ashima and her team work with nonprofits in Michigan and across the country. “I find it so amazing that organizations like this exist, thrive, and continue to function without profit motive,” she says. Ashima is able to make a unique contribution to these organizations, helping them build strong databases and the confidence to manage their data. She is strongly motivated by mission-driven causes and enjoys sharing her skills and passion for technology.

Ivan Orlic, ’05

LBC alumni pursue a wide variety of careers, but Ivan Orlic may be our first alumnus to start his own film production company. After receiving his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from MSU, Orlic took a unique path and began acting and producing in Los Angeles. He is now the founder and CEO of Seine Pictures, an independent film entertainment company based in Los Angeles.

Orlic recently co-produced Murder of a Cat with MSU alumnus, Sam Raimi. Murder of a Cat is an off-beat detective comedy that premiered at the 2014 Tribeca Film Festival, and was theatrically released in December 2014. Orlic also oversaw the development, packaging, and production of Pelé: Birth of a Legend, a biopic about Brazilian soccer player, Pelé. Produced in partnership with Academy Award winners Brian Grazer and Ron Howard’s Imagine Entertainment, Pelé will be completed in May 2015, and is expected to have a significant worldwide release.

Orlic is a graduate of The Second City Hollywood improv and sketch comedy conservatory and is active in the live performance community in Los Angeles. Orlic is also an investment fund manager and was featured as an expert panelist at the first Winston Baker Film Finance Forum Latin America held in Rio de Janeiro in 2013. Orlic has also been a featured guest lecturer at UCLA Extension’s bi-annual Entertainment Financing course since 2013.

Orlic studied Zoology at LBC and also received his master’s in Fisheries Oceanography from MSU’s Center for Systems Integration and Sustainability. “Attending Michigan State University was an incredible experience for me,” says Orlic. “As much as my day-to-day as a film producer is not usually directly related to my education, the skillset that I attained at MSU is critical to it. The scientific, methodical and creative mindset that MSU and LBC foster, and helped nurture in me, is an invaluable asset in any field of work or study.”
Lyman Briggs College

LBC News

The Career Center for Lyman Briggs College

Lyman Briggs College has opened a new Career Center within Holmes Hall! Our advisors, Ed Tillett (Career Consultant, LBC class of ‘03) and Kyle Liechty (Internship Coordinator), serve as liaisons between our students and the career world. Ed and Kyle work directly with current students to better identify and approach career opportunities through individual meetings and exposure events. They connect students with MSU alumni, organize resume critique sessions, conduct mock interviews, connect experiential learning opportunities, and promote campus-wide career events for our students.

If you are interested in hiring our graduates or further connecting with LBC students, Ed and Kyle are happy to help. Feel free to contact them at:

Ed Tillett: tillett@msu.edu
Kyle Liechty: liechtyk@egr.msu.edu

Faculty and Staff Updates

Drs. Walter Benenson, Mimi Sayed, and Howard H. Hagerman were honored as influential faculty who embody the spirit of MSU. Their names and profiles are featured at a new kiosk located in Morrill Plaza, the former location of the original Morrill Hall.

Jonelle Golding, Director of Academic Affairs, has been selected as a member of the 2015-17 Class of Emerging Leaders by the National Academic Advising Association.

Dr. Rob LaDuca, Associate Dean for Administration and Academic Governance, was chosen as a 2015-16 CIC Academic Leadership Program Fellow.

Dr. Doug Luckie, Associate Professor of Biology, received the 2015 MSU Alumni Club of Mid-Michigan Quality in Undergraduate Teaching Award.

Dr. Brian O'Shea, Associate Professor of Physics, received a MSU Teacher-Scholar award.

Dr. Ryan Sweeder, Associate Professor of Chemistry, received the 2015 Distinguished Professor of the Year award, sponsored by the Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan.

Dr. Jerry Urquhart, Assistant Professor of Biology, was chosen as a 2015 MSU Academy for Global Engagement Fellow.

Dr. Mark Waddell, Assistant Professor of HPS, was chosen as a 2015-16 Lilly Teaching Fellow.

Dr. Naoko Wake, Assistant Professor of HPS, received a MSU Excellence in Diversity Award.

LBC Lab Renovations

Lyman Briggs College is in the early stages of creating two new teaching spaces within Holmes Hall. We are currently working with MSU’s Facilities Planning and Space Management team to design a new physics laboratory. LBC plans to migrate its calculus-based physics courses that serve predominantly life science majors to a studio format in which lecture, recitation and laboratory components merge in an inquiry-based curriculum. The studio classroom and updated curriculum will capitalize on the expertise of our new physics education faculty member, Dr. Vashti Sawtelle.

In addition, LBC is designing a REAL (Rooms for Engaged and Active Learning) classroom for Holmes Hall. REAL classrooms are innovative spaces that use mobile furniture and technology to provide more teaching options across the disciplines. The classroom will enable LBC faculty to incorporate more technology-enabled active-learning techniques into their courses. Both classrooms will provide opportunities for students to learn through innovative and hands-on learning methods. LBC is in need of funding for both classroom renovations. If you are interested in making a donation, please contact Danielle Parish at lbcadvan@msu.edu.

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Alumni Updates

GLENN COIN ('81 LBC ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES) has been named science/environment/weather reporter for the Syracuse.com/The Post-Standard in Syracuse, N.Y. He has been with the company since 1995, writing and editing on a variety of topics. Glenn is also an adjunct professor at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, where he teaches reporting, writing and Environmental Politics. He has earned two master’s degrees from Syracuse University in newspapers and public administration. Glenn also served nine years on a school board in Clinton, N.Y., where he lives with his wife and two children.

SANDRA W. NEWPORT ('89 PHYSIOLOGY) is a Senior Scientist at Zoetis in Kalamazoo, MI.

DR. STEPHEN MERAW (LBS '91) was recently elected President of the Michigan Periodontal Association. He also recently completed his term as President of the Detroit District Dental Society.

HEATHER F. PETERSON ('92 BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE) is a Biology Teacher for Holt Public Schools in Holt, MI. She received the 2012 National Outstanding Biology Teacher Award.

KOREN D. CARPENTER ('93 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) is an Environmental Engineer for the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in Lansing, MI.

PARAJ V. MANDREKAR ('93 MICROBIOLOGY) is a senior research scientist for Genetic Identity Promega Corp. in Madison, WI.

ANGELA M. GOODMAN ('94 BIOLOGY) is an Environmental Compliance Specialist for the Lansing Board of Water & Light, Lansing, MI.

MARK J. LYONS, PH.D. ('95 BIOLOGY) is a Senior Scientist for Takeda Vaccines in Bozeman, MT. He formerly worked with Emergent BioSolutions in Lansing, MI.

MAC J. MISSAD ('96 PHYSICS) is a Quality Scientist for Amway Corporation in Ada, MI.

MELISSA L. CHESZEK ('97 BIOCHEMISTRY) is a Health, Safety and Environmental Manager for PepsiCo, Inc. in Chicago, IL. She received the 2013 Kusnetz Award from the American Industrial Hygiene Association.

SUZANNE R. FLETCHER ('97 MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY) is a Laboratory Hematology Supervisor at Exeter Hospital in Exeter, NH.

LISA N. VANRAEMDONCK ('98 BIOLOGY) is an Executive Director for the Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials in Aurora, CO.

JENNIFER BEGGS, MPH ('00 HUMAN BIOLOGY) is an Infectious Disease and Emergency Preparedness Epidemiologist for the Michigan Department of Community Health, Lansing, MI.

PATRICK W. DEHAAN ('00 ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT) is a Fish Biologist/Geneticist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

AMY JEANGUENAT ('02 BIOLOGY) is a Forensic Director for Bode Technology in Lorton, VA.

DANIEL A. CARROLL ('03 PHYSIOLOGY) is a Quality Assurance Manager for Cannon Muskegon in Norton Shores, MI.

KRISTEN A. PABST ('04 BIOCHEMISTRY) is a scientist for Emergent BioSolutions in Lansing, MI.

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Send your updates to lbcadvan@msu.edu and we will include them in our next newsletter and on our website.
Upcoming Events

LBC 9th Annual Research Symposium
Alumni are invited to attend LBC’s Research Symposium this April 27-28 in Holmes Hall. Over 200 students will present their research from Science, Mathematics, and History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science courses. For more information, please contact: lbcnews@msu.edu

LBC Spring Commencement Ceremony and Reception
Join us as we celebrate our largest graduating class to date! LBC’s Commencement Ceremony will take place May 9th at 10am in MSU’s Auditorium. The ceremony will be followed by refreshments in Shaw Hall (across the river from the Auditorium). For more information, please contact lbcadvan@msu.edu

For more events, visit lbc.msu.edu